

BADGER STATE

Smoke Signals

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

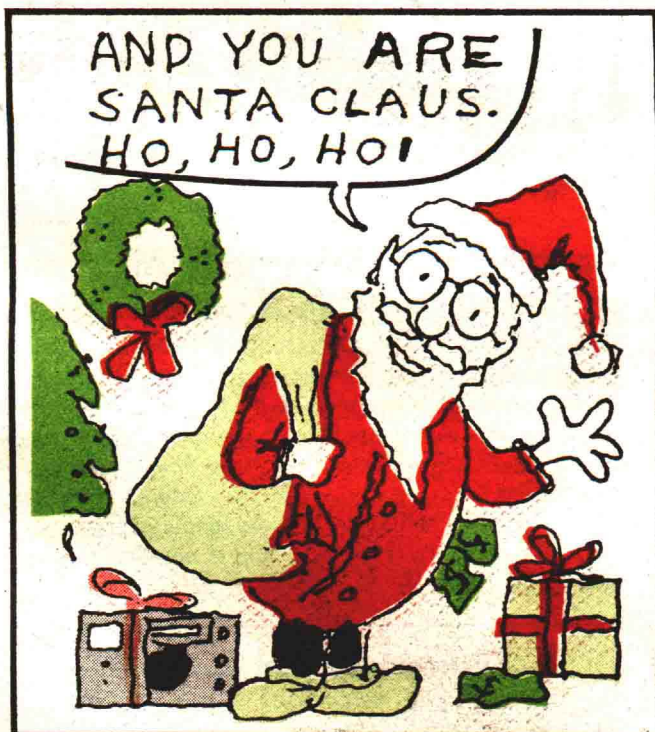
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Vol. 22 No. 12 - 264th Consecutive Monthly Issue - Baraboo, Wisconsin - December 1991

ELMER

By Rich Regent, K9GDF



More Wisconsin Balloon-Carried Amateur Radio Flights Scheduled

See Story on Page 10

Proposal for New Band at 216- 220 MHz Gets Both Support and Opposition from Industry

Amateur access to 216-220 MHz has received qualified support from one current commercial occupant, while being opposed by television broadcasting interests. Current maritime users have given qualified support to an ARRL petition for amateur use of the band on a secondary basis; a trade group representing broadcasters has cited concerns about potential interference to broadcast television from amateurs.

On June 4, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) filed with the FCC a Petition for Rule Making, seeking a secondary, non-interference allocation in the 216-220 MHz band. That band is currently occupied by the Maritime Mobile Service, and by some fixed and mobile assignments. In addition, part of the range, 218-218.5 MHz, is under consideration for use by a new Interactive Video Data Service.

The ARRL on October 23 submitted comments on its own petition. The League emphasized that the new allocation would help offset the loss of 220-222 MHz.

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Happy Holidays

from

Badger State Smoke Signals!

Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN
Chairman

Jim Decker, WB9UQT
Treasurer

Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ
Editor

Swapfests and Other Social Events

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1991. Courage Handi-Hams winter hamfest featuring a flea market and a silent auction, both beginning at 9:00 am. At the Faribault Eagles Club, Fairbault, MN. South on I-35 to Highway 60 then exit 1/2 mile east. \$4.00 admission charge. Prizes, speakers and food available on the premises.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1991. South Bend IN. Hamfest. contact Wayne Werts, K9IXU, 1889 Riverside Dr., South Bend, IN 46616. (219) 233-5307.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1992. Midwinter Swapfest, sponsored by the West Allis RAC, at Waukesha Exposition Center, Waukesha, WI. For more information see the ad on the last page.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1992. Midwinter Madness Hobby Electronics Show, Blain Minn. Robbinsdale ARC, P.O. Box 22613, Robbinsdale, MN 55422.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1992. Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Hwy. 18 West, Jefferson, WI sponsored by the Tri-County ARC. Contact TCARC, W9MQB, 213 Frederick, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538.

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1992. The Ozaukee Radio Club will sponsor its 14th annual Cedarburg Swapfest, at the Circle-B Recreation Center, Hwy. 60 and Cty. I. Contact ORC Swapfest, 11448

Laguna Dr., Mequon, WI 53092. (414) 242-4995.

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1992. Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club hamfest, at the Chippewa Falls Fairgrounds. Contact: Lis Searing, N9EQR, 1129 McKinley Rd., Eau Claire, WI 54701. (715) 834-1303.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1992. The KMRA 1991 Computer and Ham Radio Swapfest will be held at the Waukesha County Exposition Center, Hwys. J and FT in Waukesha, WI. Contact KMRA Swapfest, P.O. Box 411, Waukesha, WI 53187-0411.

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.

The most satisfying kind of gardening is planting yourself in a lawn chair
Enrique A. Compain

Orthopedist chatting with tree surgeons. One of my patients went skiing last weekend, and he ran into one of your patients.
Jose Estevez

example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 11th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections should be sent to Ken Ebner.

Editorial material, photographs, feature articles, display ads, and exchange papers should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebner.

Swapfest information should be sent to Ken Ebner. Swapfest ads should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Jim Decker.

Conditions for Reprinting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*. This credit is mandatory, and no material may be printed unless it is given. This newspaper is produced by volunteer Radio Amateurs, and is non-profit. This newspaper is mailed from Portage, WI 53901.

Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

Club Meetings

Due to space limitations, we cannot always carry the full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please see the November 1991 meetings column for the latest complete listing. The following are additions or changes since that listing.

GREEN BAY MIKE AND KEY CLUB
Second Thur: 7:30 pm - Media Services area of the J. M. Science Building at St. Norbert College in DePere.

The Test Point

Amateur Radio examinations
scheduled in and around Wisconsin

The following are known locations where Amateur Radio license examinations are scheduled in the Badger State area.

December 2, 1991	St. Paul, MN
December 3, 1991	Stevens Point, WI
December 3, 1991	Westmont, IL
December 4, 1991	Coon Rapid, MN
December 7, 1991	Stevens Point, WI
December 7, 1991	Dubuque, IA
December 7, 1991	Marquette, MI
December 7, 1991	St. Paul, MN (SPARC)
December 14, 1991	Madison, WI
December 14, 1991	Oak Forest, IL
December 14, 1991	Alexandria, MN
December 14, 1991	Bloomington, MN (BARC)
December 14, 1991	Council Bluffs, IA
December 17, 1991	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
December 21, 1991	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
December 21, 1991	St. Paul Park, MN (SEMARC)
December 27, 1991	Sioux City, IA
December 28, 1991	Corunna, MI
January 11, 1992	Marshfield, WI
January 11, 1992	Madison, WI
January 18, 1992	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
January 19, 1992	Des Moines, IA
January 19, 1992	Dixon, IL
February 8, 1992	Madison, WI
February 15, 1992	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
March 14, 1992	Madison, WI
March 14, 1992	Marshfield, WI
March 21, 1992	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
March 28, 1992	Menomonie, WI
April 11, 1992	Madison, WI
April 18, 1992	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
May 2, 1992	Ozaukee, WI (BE)
May 2, 1992	Ozaukee Swapfest
May 9, 1992	Marshfield, WI
July 11, 1992	Marshfield, WI
September 12, 1992	Marshfield, WI
November 14, 1992	Marshfield, WI
November 7, 1992	Menomonie, WI

Monthly, First Sat. Racine, WI
(except January, July & August)
Monthly, Last Sat. Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)
Monthly, Third Sat. Loves Park, IL

Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio
Education and Information

CHAIRMAN: Kenneth A. Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560.

EDITOR: Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, 412 1/2 Ash Street, Baraboo, WI 53913. Telephone (608) 356-4031.

TREASURER: Jim Decker, WB9UQT, P.O. Box 337, Baraboo, WI 53913-0337.

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR: Richard R. Regent, K9GDF, 5003 South 26th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53221.

Subscriptions

1 year	(12 issues)	\$9.75
2 years	(24 issues)	\$18.00
3 years	(36 issues)	\$26.00

Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebner, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1.

The only exception is for participating clubs. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than SEVEN DAYS after the club's meeting. For

Many of the larger Swapfests/Hamfests offer exam sessions. If not shown above contact the sponsoring club in the Swapfest column on page 2.

GENERAL RULES

FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Most examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor.)

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL or Badger State Smoke Signals. Send a 25¢ SASE if you request one from the ARRL or BSSS. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$5.25 (\$5.40 after Jan. 1, 1992) payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their original Amateur license to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only.

Additional information is given below.

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB

MRAC/VEC

1991 examination dates:

TUESDAY EVENING: December 17., 1991

TUESDAY DATES: At 6:30 p.m. at church, 11709 West Cleveland Ave., West Allis, WI. For Additional Information Contact; Jack Krause, W9JK, 1737 N. 116th St., Wauwatosa, WI 53226. (414) 774-6999 or Les Peterson, W9YCV, 9741 W. Howard Ave., Greenfield, WI 53228. (414) 321-4745.

SATURDAY DATES: 8:30 a.m. at the Wauwatosa Savings and Loan, 7500 West State St. (Lower level) Please arrive promptly so testing can be completed by 12:00 noon.

Bring along your original license and two (2) good quality photocopies, plus two forms of identification, such as a driver's license, etc. Also required are a pen and \$5.00 for the exam fee. WALK-INS are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card: print the grade of license you are applying for, and your name, address, and telephone number. Send the card to MRAC/VEC, c/o Jack Krause, W9JK, 1737 North 116th Street, Wauwatosa, WI 53226, or to Ed Seruga, KE9JJ, 3840 South 43rd Street #21, Milwaukee, WI 53220. Telephones: (414) 774-6999 or (414) 545-6299.

BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Dec. 21, 1991

Jan. 18, Feb. 15, Mar. 21, & Apr. 18 1992.

May 2, 1992. Ozaukee swapfest. (Ozaukee)

Unless otherwise noted, examinations are administered beginning at 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

at St. Nicholas Church basement, 5345 N. Green Bay Ave. (2 1/2 blocks south of Silver Spring), Milwaukee. Walk-ins are welcome. CW waiver forms are available. Please send a request with an SASE prior to taking an exam, so it is ready when attending the session. To register in advance, send a post card with your name, test or tests you wish to take, date you wish to take., your call sign, address and telephone number to Badger Examiners, Gary J. Sharbuno, WI9M, 5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53223. Telephone (414) 355-0237.

MENOMONIE WI - ARRL/VEC

Saturdays: Mar. 28 1992 & Nov. 14, 1992

The Northern Wisconsin Radio Club administers exams from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the U. W. Stout Communications Center, 820 South Broadway, Menomonie, WI. Use front entrance of building. Walk-ins are accepted only to extent of available exam materials.

Contact: Jim Ley, NX9F, (715) 235-3998 (H); or (715) 232-1397 (O).

MARSHFIELD, WISCONSIN

1992 dates: Jan. 11, Mar. 14, May 9, Jul. 11, Sep. 12, Nov 14.

Sponsored by the Marshfield Area ARS. Second Saturday every other month, at St. Joseph Hospital, School of Nursing entrance. Room 124. St. Joseph Ave., Marshfield, WI. Walk-ins Welcome. Contact Walter Friant, WBOKIN, 2310 Wallonnie Dr., Marshfield, WI 54449.

RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August.

Exams are given at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to William Firchow, Jr., NW9P, 1912 27th Street, Kenosha, WI 53140, telephone (414) 658-8390.

TOMAHAWK, WI

Last Saturday of every month. Jan. thru Oct.

Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No preregistration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testings starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Greg Garner, WA9W, 4088 Highway 51, Harshaw, WI 54529. Telephone (715) 453-7096.

MADISON, WI - ARRL/VEC

Dec. 14, 1991, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, Mar. 14, & Apr. 11, 1992.

All exams will be held in the Labor Temple at 1610 South Park St., Madison, WI.

Contact: Gari Berliot, (608) 221-2022

STEVENS POINT, WI - ARRL/VEC

Contact: Joe Larson, (715) 344-1182

DUBUQUE, IOWA - ARRL/VEC

December 7.

The Great River Amateur Radio Club VEs are now field stocked, which means retests can be given immediately.

Exams are held at 9:00 a.m. at the Central Fire Station, 9th and Central in Dubuque. Use the basement entrance on 9th Street. For more info, contact Mike Jozefowicz, NSOU, 2735 Hickory Hill, Dubuque IA 52001, or call Mike at (319) 582-8563. Talk-ins are on the 147.84/24 and 147.63/03 repeaters. — (Thanks Art Evans, KA9KLZ)

LOVES PARK, IL

Third Saturday of every month. Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (DeVry VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. Contact: Dennis G. Eksten, W9SS, 5006 N. Second St., Loves Park, IL 61111. (815) 877-6768.

Contact information on other of state exams (provided by ARRL/VEC).

EASTERN IOWA

Sioux City, 712-277-2636, John A Bylin
Des Moines, 515-967-3890, Jim Snapp
Dubuque, 319-582-8563, Mike Jozefowicz
Council Bluffs, 712-322-1454, Lorraine Bogle

NORTHERN ILLINOIS

Bolingbrook, 708-739-6015, Robert Stevens
Park Ridge, 708-359-7378, Sanford Franzblau
Westmont, 708-964-6712, Don Hlinsky
Oak Forest, 312-247-0650, William Koltz

UPPER MICHIGAN

Marquette, 906-249-8897, Richard E Schwenke

MINNESOTA TESTS

December 7, 1991 St Paul, MN (SPARC)
December 4, 1991 Coon Rapid, MN
December 14, 1991 Bloomington, MN (BARC)
December 14, 1991 Alexandria, MN
December 21, 1991 St. Paul Park, MN (SEMARC)

Locations and contacts:

St. Paul Radio Club (SPRC)
St. Lukes School (cafeteria)
1065 Summit Ave.
St. Paul, MN
contact: Jay Bellows (612) 222-7253

Bloomington Amateur Radio Club (BARC)
Creskide Community Center
98th and Penn Ave. So.
Bloomington, MN
contact: Art Putt (612) 881-7181

SE Metro Area Radio Club (SEMARC)
St. Thomas Aquinas Activity Bldg.
920 Holly Ave.
St. Paul Park, MN
contact: David Harrell (612) 459-1647

Alexandria, Perry Johnson, (612) 459-8678
Coon Rapid, Thomas W Cunningham (612) 537-2649
St Paul, Ralph Andrea, (612) 739-0279

The above Minnesota test are listed as a
(continued on page 18)

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Rob Hummel, WA9ZTY, Secretary • 202 Midvale Drive • Marshall, WI 53559

Section Manager's Notes



Richard R. Regent, K9GDF
5003 South 26th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221

Congratulations to Roy Pedersen, K9FHI, on being appointed as Assistant Section Manager. Roy was SM several years ago, and is a welcome addition to the hard-working League team in Wisconsin.

KE9RW, of Menomonie, has been appointed as Technical Specialist, and received his free *TC Manual*.

N9KHE, of Milwaukee, is a new Public Information Officer.

Our STM, Don Stenz, K9KSA, who is a college professor, built a display panel used in a court case involving the electric company and a fire insurance claim, and reviewed a text on electronic communications for Prentice-Hall. Don is tabulating 1991 traffic totals for the Traffic Handlers of the Year Awards, to be presented at the WNA Picnic in 1992.

Operation Snowshoe, promoted by W9NGT, gathers info of snow depths of major snowstorms, and relays reports on nets to Sullivan Weather through KF9EW and N9IDH.

New officers of West Allis RAC: Pres. WT9P; VP N9FEW; Sec. KB9DQI; and Treas. K9WTF. WARAC also awarded WA9POV their member of the year (see page 10 of this issue of *Badger State*

Wisconsin Nets

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CST	Mgr.
BWN	Yes	3984	1200	0600	W9AYK
BEN	Yes	3985	1800	1200	WB9ESM
WSBN	Yes	3985	2330	1730	K9UTQ
WNN	Yes	3723	0000	1800	KA9FVX
WSSN	Yes	3645	0030	1830	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3862	0100	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3862	0400	2200	W9NGP
NWTN	Yes	34/34	0030	1830	NS80
		(Rhinelander area)			
g.30					
Net	No	01/61	0030	1830	KA9DMC
Gr. Bay	No	72/12	0245	2045	WB9NRK
		(Green Bay area)			
ARES	No	4.65/5.25	0200	2000	
		(South East/South Central Wisconsin)			
RACES	No	3993.5	1815	1215	WC9AAG
		(USB Tuesday and Thursday)			
RACES	No	3993.5	1400	0800	WA9OAY
		(LSB Sunday)			

Smoke Signals).

New officers of ManCoRad: Pres. WB9ESM; VP N9KGL; Sec. KA9ZQF; and Treas. N9BCX.

January 11, West Allis RAC Mid-Winter Swapfest will be at Waukesha Exposition Center.

Exams January 11 by Marshfield ARS and January 18 by Milwaukee Badger Examiners.

January 21, FLARC will hold election of officers; then, on January 25, they will enjoy their banquet at Essen Haus in downtown Madison with traveling trophy awarded to Fox Hunt winner.

Sorry to report Silent Key, Ethel, XYL of W9FZC.

No-Hands Hand-Held

Our Section Emergency Coordinator, John Leekley, WB9SMM, has his hands free when he directs Amateur Radio operators at events supported by radio communications. He doesn't hold his hand-held; instead, he slips it in one of his photographer's jacket pockets near the shoulder seam.

Putting the 2-meter unit so the antenna can stick up above his shoulder, rather than clipping it to his belt at waist level, helps not only to improve signal strength, but also frees up operator movement. John also notes, "Hanging everything on my belt made me wonder if my pants would

fall off."

Another pocket holds a 2½ pound Quantum battery for extended hours of operation. In winter, it is better to keep the battery inside the coat in a pocket or on the belt so body warmth can improve battery efficiency.

Placing the loads in pockets around the coat balances equipment. Small index cards work better than a clipboard. A microphone and speaker combination clipped on the front can also make operation more convenient.

- Richard R. Regent, K9GDF

Southeast Wisconsin ARES Net

John Leekley, WB9SMM, of Menomonee Falls, mentions that he usually is the Net Control Station for the Southeast Wisconsin ARES Net, which meets on 146.67 MHz on Monday at 8 p.m. This is a good

place to ask some experts questions about emergency communication procedures and public service events. You might even want to volunteer to be an NCS; ask John for details.

- Rich Regent, K9GDF
Milwaukee, WI

Silent Key

LESLIE (LES) E. JENKS, W9AKY, age 87, passed away Friday, October 25, in his home in Brice Prairie, WI.

Les was employed by the city of La Crosse for 37 years, serving as radio chief engineer for the police department. He installed the first two-way radio system in the state of Wisconsin. He also taught at Western Wisconsin Technical Institute, and served as Civil Defense Director for the city and county of La Crosse.

He was a member of the American Radio Relay League, and was a 60-year member of the Quarter Century Wireless Association. He was also a member of the Institute of Radio Engineering and the Riverland Amateur Radio Club. He had been a licensed radio amateur since 1920. He had helped to relay many messages overseas during various wars.

Les had countless radio friends, and was willing to help or advise anyone with their problems.

Les' wife, Frances, preceded him in death in July of 1976. A sister, Maud, also preceded him in death. He is survived by his many nieces and nephews, his splendid neighbors, and countless Amateur Radio friends. □

- Information via Larry Kapp, WT9M

Correspondence

....from our readers



Silent Key W9AKY: Off and Clear

While I have been a ham radio man for only a couple years, it's guys like Les, W9AKY, that made the hobby take a firm hold in me. Les instilled the spirit of ham radio into everyone he talked to - have fun! For his old friends, or newcomers like me, Les was always there to help with any problem.

And it's that same spirit which inspires me to reach out and help new hams in the adventure of ham radio. I also got a grasp of what radio was like in the old days.

Les was 87 when he became a silent key. He was licensed in 1920, and his first call was 9AKY.

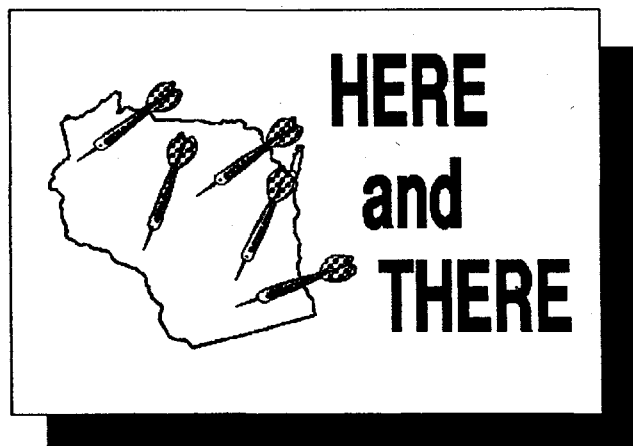
He installed the first two-way radio system in the state of Wisconsin. Les worked for the city of La Crosse for 37 years as the chief radio engineer. Les was always proud to tell anyone that you could find his call in any *Call Book*!

Another fine radio art I learned from Les was how to ragchew. He was an expert at signing out of a QSO, and then staying in it for another hour or two!

Always cheerful, always friendly, always helpful. That was W9AKY.

Ever since I heard the other day that Les was a silent key, I keep hearing his distinctive voice saying, "W9-A-K-Y will be off-f-f-f-f and clear!"

- From a friend, Larry, WT9M



BILL IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WOULD CHANGE COMPOSITION OF FCC: A bill introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives would require that at least one FCC commissioner be "skilled in the engineering sciences."

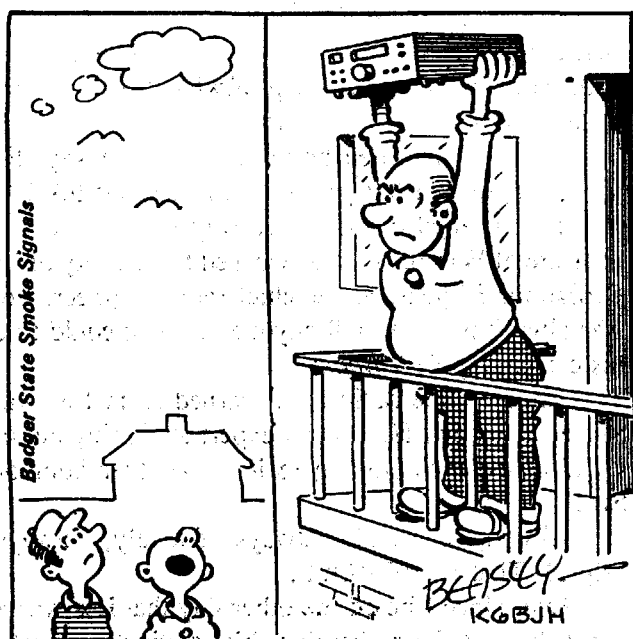
The bill, H.R. 3501, was initiated by the Society of Broadcast Engineers and sponsored by Rep. Don Ritter (R-PA). It says, "In the 56 years since the creation of the FCC, the technical sophistication and complexity of radio spectrum regulatory issues has increased significantly. At the same time, of the 64 past and present FCC commissioners, only eight have been engineers, or have had apparent training in the engineering sciences" and "though the FCC commissioners may appoint professional assistants, few have engineering assistants, and such is not a suitable substitute for first-hand comprehension of technical complexities and technical policy alternatives."

The bill would require at least one of the FCC commissioners to hold at least a bachelor of science degree in any engineering discipline or to hold senior or fellow status in a nationally recognized engineering society, or "by virtue of registration as a professional engineer, be skilled in the engineering sciences at the time of his appointment."

Rep. Ritter, a metallurgist with a doctoral degree from MIT, is said to be the only member of the U.S. House with a Ph.D. in the sciences.

- The ARRL Letter, 10/31/91

SOCIETY OF BROADCAST ENGINEERS APPROVES AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS CREDIT: The Certification Committee of the Society of Broadcast Engineers (SBE) has approved



TEN METER BAND FINALLY FOLD FOR THIS CYCLE, JOHN?

the recognition of Amateur Radio activities for certification credits.

Persons holding a valid FCC Amateur Extra Class license who meet the service requirement for employment in the broadcast or broadcast-related industries, will be awarded Broadcast Technologist Certification upon application.

This is in recognition that the current licensing requirements for this level of the Amateur Service demonstrate technical proficiency on par with the old FCC Second and First Class (commercial) license examination.

Certification information and application forms may be obtained from the SBE national office in Indianapolis at (317) 253-1640.

- From a Sept. 13, 1991 SBE news release in *Foxtales* (Green Fox ARC)

PHILADELPHIA MAN FACES JAMMING CHARGES: A Philadelphia man faces criminal charges for radio jamming. Ernest Woods, 30, of Norristown, was charged Sept. 27 in federal court with willful and malicious interference with radio communications on fire and state police frequencies, and could face additional charges. The interference charge carries penalties of as much as three years in jail and a \$30,000 fine.

Woods was nabbed in November, 1990, following extensive work by the FCC field office in Langhorne, Pennsylvania, with assistance by local amateurs. Woods was licensed as KA3WHS, Technician class, in August, 1990.

- The ARRL Letter, 10/31/91

TECH THE ENTRY OF CHOICE: The FCC has released amateur licensing figures for the end of September, the end of the federal fiscal year, and "The pendulum has swung strongly toward the Technician license being the gateway of choice into Amateur Radio," ARRL EVP David Sumner, K1ZZ, said.

In the 12 months beginning October 1990, there were 38,363 new amateur licenses issued and 30,825 upgrades. Both figures represent increases over the previous year as well as earlier years. For comparison, in the 12 months beginning October 1989, there were 26,134 new licenses issued and 29,699 upgrades.

1992 QSO Party Date Set

The 1992 Wisconsin QSO Party will be held Sunday, March 1, 1992. The party is sponsored annually by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club. Rules, a multiplier list, and a score summary form will be published in the February, 1992 issue of *Badger State Smoke Signals*. - Thanks Dave Kneis, WA9PDV

During September, the number of first-time Novice licenses issued was only 679, compared with 1,680 Technicians. In all, 2,407 new amateurs joined the ranks during the month - the lowest number since January.

"However, the backlog of unprocessed applications at the FCC in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, grew by more than 1,200 during the month, suggesting that the dip is more the result of that than of lagging interest," Sumner said.

- The ARRL Letter, 11/14/91

JOHN THE TENTH? If any of you packet radio fans want to try something, there is a packet node on 145.61 in the Milwaukee area called WB9SMM-9 mknown as WIMKE. You can then connect to WB9SMM-10 to ARES DATA files to see what is now playing. Or, you can say DIR or GETINFO to download files from the message board. The messages should have the calls, subject, date, and message. Let John, WB9SMM, know what you think. Maybe you could leave him a message.

- Rich Regent, K9GDF

WNA PHOTO INFO CORRECTION: On page 8 of our October issue, we published a group photo of some of the Wisconsin Nets Association officials. Les Peterson, W9YCV, is in the photo, and is correctly identified, but we left out his "job titles." Les is a delegate from the Wisconsin Intrastate Net/Early (WIN/E). He is also one of the WNA directors. Our apologies for the omissions, Les!

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216-220 MHz Proposal Gets Support, Opposition

Continued from front page

An engineering study by Atlantic Research Corporation, commissioned by the League, found that the Amateur Service "could effectively operate in the 216-220 MHz band subject to appropriate frequency and distance constraints," even if usage of the band by commercial interests "grows substantially."

Another engineering study conducted by the staff of the ARRL Technical Department Laboratory found that interference to television channels 11 and 13 also could be avoided, particularly if amateur operations were confined above 218 MHz in areas served by channel 13 television stations.

Following release of an FCC public notice on June 24, with the League's concurrence the FCC extended the comment deadline to allow Waterway Communications System, Inc. (Watercom) to conduct an engineering analysis of the League's proposal.

The League and Watercom currently are coordinating various technical concerns, an effort that "undoubtedly (will) lead to satisfactory procedures for informal coordination of amateur operation in the 216-220 MHz band," the League's Oct. 23 comments said.

"Watercom's engineering analysis (the League said) has revealed certain issues relating to proper protection ratios, the proper means of calculating distances to contours and the like, all of which relate to the implementation of the allocation, and the informal coordination procedures to be used in determining whether a particular amateur station can

operate at a particular fixed location without interference to other services, rather than to the propriety of the allocation itself."

Watercom, in its own comments filed October 23, "believes that the Amateur Service successfully can use 216-220 MHz frequencies on a non-interference basis to Automated Maritime Telecommunications Systems. The key to such compatible usage, Watercom said, "is, of course, effective frequency coordination.

"Accordingly, Watercom requests that the Commission, should it proceed with the secondary allocation requested by the ARRL, to impose frequency coordination requirements on Amateur operations in the 216-220 MHz band."

"It would appear from these discussions (with Watercom) that there is no significant technical obstacle to coordinated amateur fixed operation in the 216-220 MHz band," the League said.

TV Interests Oppose Petition

The League's petition was opposed by Maximum Service Television, Inc. (MSTV), a trade association representing commercial and noncommercial broadcast television stations in the U.S. MSTV cites potential risk of interference from amateur operations, claiming that the League's interference tests are inadequate, and asks that the Commission postpone action until "proper tests" are conducted.

MSTV faults both the League's findings concerning interference to Channel 13 television stations and its proposal for frequency assignments to ensure

interference safeguards.

MSTV claims that co-existence with AMTS (the Waterway system) is possible, while with amateurs it is not. Amateur operations, says MSTV, are not limited in their geographic scope, and are "far different from the low power, very brief and intermittent transmissions contemplated in the IVDS proceeding."

MSTV's comments faulted the League's interference test results on several points, including an insufficient number and variety of TV receivers used, the use of a video cassette recorder in the tests, and the human and room conditions under which the visual tests were made.

"An allocation to amateur radio, even on a secondary basis, presents a significant risk of interference to adjacent television operations," MSTV concluded.

In its summary, the League noted that the loss of the 220-222 MHz band segment has resulted in "severe crowding in many metropolitan areas, especially in California and the northeast states," in the remainder of the band at 222-225 MHz.

"The urgency of the secondary allocation sought by the League at 216-220 MHz is now significantly greater than it was prior to August," the League said.

"There is simply no room in these areas for any new amateur wideband data communications at 222-225 MHz, and, as predicted, the development of the nationwide high-speed packet system has been severely hampered.

"The League urges that the Commission proceed at the earliest opportunity with the issuance of a Notice of Proposed Rule Making" the comments concluded.

- *The ARRL Letter*, 10/31/91

Winter Field Day with the Arctic Amateur Radio Club

By Don Evenson, K9JYX
401 11th Street
Baraboo, WI 53913

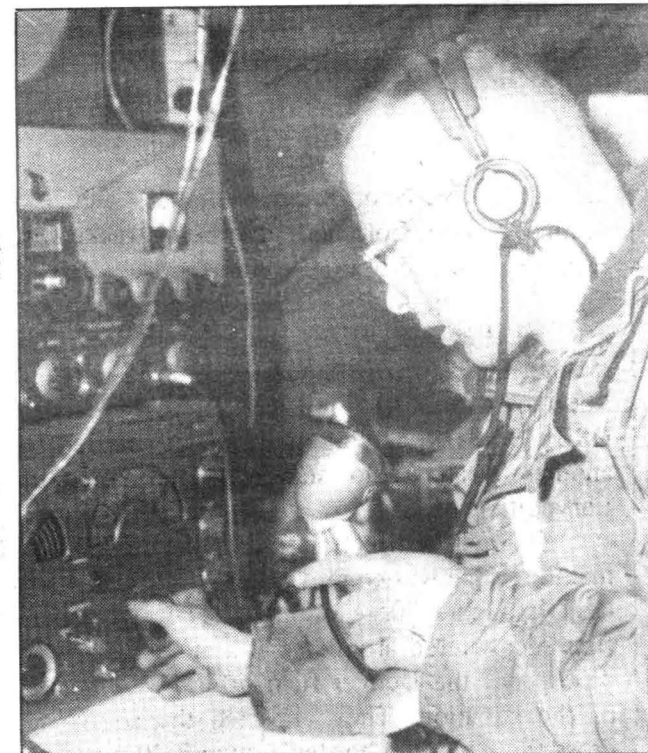
While in the Air Force and stationed at Eielson Air Force Base south of Fairbanks, Alaska, I joined the Arctic Amateur Radio Club. While in Alaska (October 1961 to May 1963), I held the call of KL7EED.

Operations at that time were mainly on 75 meters AM, two meters AM, and 10 meters. At that time, we were at a sunspot peak and, with my Heathkit DX-60, I had great fun working 10-meter DX.

With all of the sunspot activity, band conditions in June for the normally-scheduled Field Day activities were just too horrendous to attempt operating. At one of our club meetings, which were held at the University of Alaska, the members tossed around the idea of conducting a winter field day exercise and issuing special QSLs to all contacts.

The dates were set, and we all gathered together to pitch the operating tent on high ground outside Fairbanks. This was done after work in the arctic winter, in pitch dark, as we had only about four hours of so-called daylight.

One of the club members, who at that time was director of the Geophysical Institute, brought a transit to correctly take proper bearings so we could



In these photos, above left, a man with a forked stick pushes some antenna wires back up in the trees after they were knocked down by a pesky moose. At bottom left, AARC members look on as Nate, KL7DEJ, tunes in an elusive DX station. And, above is Don, K9JYX/KL7EED, taking his turn at operating. He is 22 years old in this photo.

- Photos by Don Evenson/K9JYX



Al Weber, KL7AEQ, makes some final adjustments to a Johnson Viking. - Photo by Don Evenson/K9JYX

orient our long-wire antennas. However, an argument ensued over which star we should sight on. The wrong star won, and the antennas wound up pointing in the wrong direction.

However, we had lots of fun and, even though we were operating in 55 degree below zero weather with no heat (remember, this was in the early 1960s, when all the fancy camping equipment was yet to be developed), we at least proved it could be done! □

FCC Accuses Magazine Editor of Pirate Transmitting on HF

The editor of *Mobile Radio Technology* has been accused by the FCC of operating a pirate radio station. On Oct. 6, Don Bishop, the editor of the magazine published by Intertech Publishing of Overland, Kansas, was stopped just south of Limon, Colorado, after being tracked by FCC monitors across the country.

According to Bob Weller, an engineer at the FCC's Lakewood, Colorado field office, Bishop was first heard at the Commission's Laurel, Maryland monitoring station, on 15.050 MHz USB. He was playing tapes made earlier of another pirate radio station, "The Voice of Laryngitis."

The FCC's direction finding net determined that the signal was coming from a moving source - on Interstate 70, westbound. The signal was first encountered around 7:30 a.m. EST, and at 4:30 p.m., the Denver field office was notified of the situation. They expected the source to cross the Colorado border around 7:30 p.m.

According to Weller, the signal disappeared from 15.050 but was then found 7.420 LSB. Weller used the direction finding equipment in his FCC vehicle to find the source, then contacted the Colorado State Patrol.

Don Bishop, who is N0EA, has been unavailable for comment. FCC engineer Weller is N6NE.

- The ARRL Letter, 10/31/91



QCWA/Wisconsin Chapter 55

At the October meeting of the Quarter Century Wireless Association's Wisconsin Chapter 55, Jerry Van Den Wymelenberg, W9VOW (right), was presented a 55-year Golden Anniversary certificate by Travis Baird, W9VQD.

- Photo by Les Peterson/W9YCV

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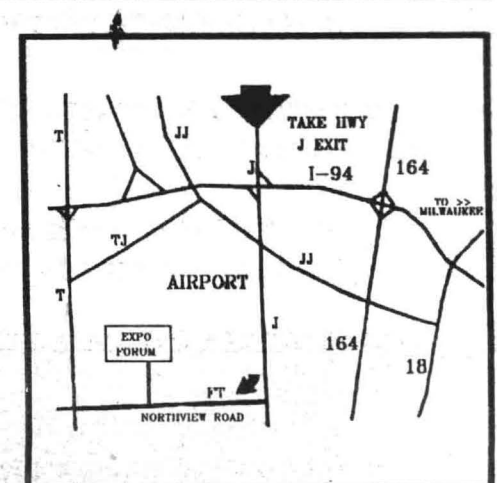
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Retrospective: The 1991 Severe Weather Reporting Season

The following is a transcript of comments by Sherman Carr W9NGT (Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator, Wisconsin Section ARRL) at the October 5, 1991, meeting of the Milwaukee/Waukesha ARES. His comments dealt with the severe weather season just ended, and are therefore of interest to BSSS readers.

- John Leekley, WB9SMM
Wisconsin Section Emergency Coordinator

In going over past operations or one just completed, the common term used is the word "critique"; it has become generic. One definition gives the synonym word: "to review". So the purpose here is to review, not to critique, which from the dictionary definition, means literally, to criticize.

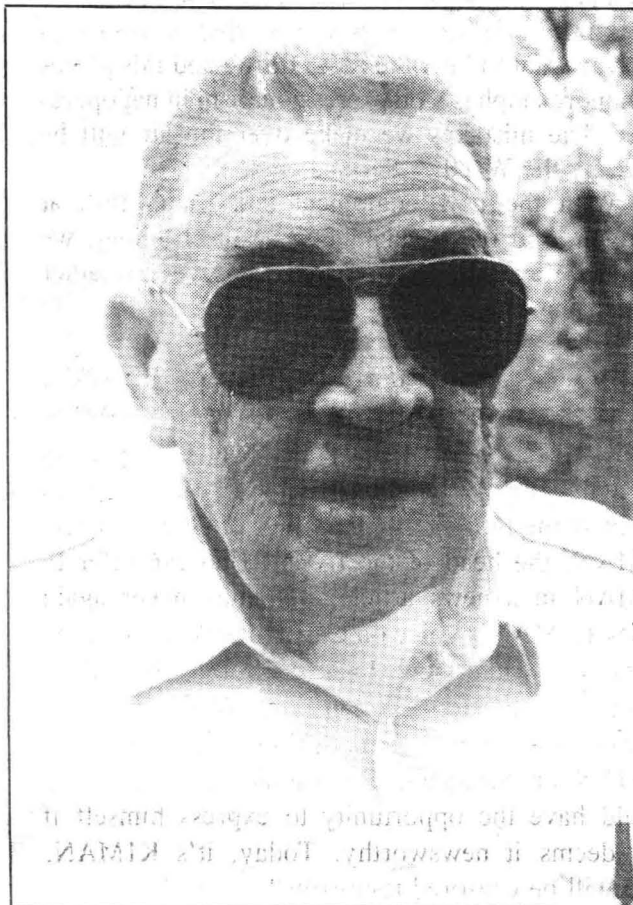
The approach, if others feel as I do, is that each individual must be his or her own worst critic. In my case, more often than I care to admit, while at the bench, or drawing board, or during an operation, I've said, "Carr, wake up" or "Carr, you screwed up" or similar, and most often accompanied by some profanity - to myself, of course. On the other hand, if someone else told me that, I'd most likely say, "Who the h___ do you think you're talking to?" The point is, we as individuals are a lot tougher on ourselves than we will allow others to be.

So, this review will be a short summary, with some logic for procedures that allow a somewhat relaxed operation where weather comes with lesser severity, yet can be tightened up when severity is near or at catastrophic limits.

There were fourteen watches of record issued this year, only two of which threatened to, or actually became catastrophic; that is, where tornados actually occurred. In a few cases, watches were essentially precautionary. In other cases Sullivan issued strong thunderstorm advisories or special weather statements when no watch was issued. In all these sessions we found that on all the circuits monitored, everyone was not only aware of the situation, but seemed to be pretty well informed as to the potential. This is gratifying because it indicates everyone is alert and on deck, and little or no time is wasted in getting organized and rolling.

We note, also, that the liaison station operation this year was the best so far. With only a few exceptions, traffic transferred from one circuit to another was repeated word-for-word. This indicates that operators are fully aware that, even though severe weather is a very short fuse event, with a need for speedy transfer of information, the only factor more important than speed is accuracy, and the extra 15 or 20 seconds to copy and read, actually can save valuable time, and virtually eliminates errors.

In a few watch operations, where storm behavior history was not unduly severe, we operated without a net control on the ARES circuits, and Sullivan operators took calls direct. We found that, except for several calls requesting weather status, there were very few of what we term frivolous reports. I personally feel that requests for weather status are acceptable when the system in progress is not unduly severe, and traffic is light. On the other hand, weather status requests every few minutes can



Sherman Carr, W9NGT

get irritating, especially when updates are regularly aired at half-hour intervals or oftener.

For the individual operator, the primary interest is to know when potentially severe weather will arrive at his or her location, and how severe it will be when it gets there. How severe it will be is still a variable, but its arrival can be determined with fair accuracy, even though radar summaries may be 30 minutes or more old. Speed and direction are always given in the summaries, and projections can be made with confidence. All that is needed is a state map and a pair of dividers. Again, we find that more and more operators are doing their own projections, and generally coming up with good data.

In the review discussions everyone noted the increased use of the event indicator in the initial call. This was especially noticeable during the last watch on the '91 system.

Where the potential is high for severe weather, and where there are many observing operators in an area such as Metro Milwaukee, the use of the event indicator allows the NCS to use the list of reportable events as a priority list, and thus insures that higher priority events are handled first, if necessary.

It should be kept in mind that Sullivan operators listen up sharply whenever a station calls. If the reportable event is included in the initial call, and the event is of a serious nature, Weather Service people are immediately alert, and the remaining data consists of when and where it occurred. It speeds up the process.

Of course, this points up the fact that Sullivan operators start writing on the message pad with the initial call. When the report turns out to be frivolous -- the page is wadded up and discarded. And again, we are told that the number of wadded up message forms at the end of a watch has steadily declined.

".... We as individuals are a lot tougher on ourselves than we will allow others to be."

So, our review of this season is fairly positive, from the standpoint of the individual operators. Weather service people are extremely happy with our operations. They found space for a cabinet full of radios. We'll be putting in a packet station and will have to expand our little control console, and hang up some more antennas.

WB9YSG and his Sullivan gang have put out a great effort, and the results are outstanding. But, we need more capable operators out there, and over the winter we will be making a concerted recruitment and training effort to qualify at least six more operators. In addition, we need to expand the cadre of operators for the other key stations, and John will be working on this item during the winter months.

Operations

We review our SOP's or Standard Operating Procedures, twice a year.

In routine traffic nets, or the various amateur activity nets, the personal call sign serves for identification. In emergency nets, and the safety and coordination operations such as parades, bike-athons etc., the use of tactical call signs is far more efficient. A tactical call sign can indicate a specific function, location, or special entity. It clearly indicates where and what and is expressive of function. Some operators are uneasy with this concept at first, being keenly aware of the commission's rules pertaining to station identification. However, very few traffic exchanges exceed one minute, so the operator simply uses his tactical call and concludes the exchange with his or her own call. Further, if traffic is light, the net control can, as an option, run a roll call of the tactical ID's and each station responds with his or her personal call. The FCC is happy, the NCS knows who is where, and the whole operation functions smoothly. The roll call need be only at half hour or hourly intervals, or as need be.

We strongly urge all net operation coordinators to implement the use of tactical call signs as a routine procedure. In monitoring various operations we find many operators drop into the tactical call routine quite easily, because there is a natural tendency to do so.

As a special note, the tactical call sign procedure is the final step that makes the operation a professional one.

Finally, as stated, all procedures are reviewed twice a year. Although they have stood up remarkably well for some 27 years, we are aware that at some point changes may be required. Anyone who feels that some change is needed, and can provide good logic for such change, is encouraged to submit his or her recommendation. Keep in mind, however, that in place procedures are state wide, and a change that appears logical here may not show good logic upstate. Such recommendations must be submitted in written form, along with good logic therefor, to the EC for review. This applies to emergency, safety

and coordination procedures only. The SEC, with input from his assistants, makes the final decision on procedural matters.

As a final note on procedures, SOP's for Sullivan have been written, reviewed, revised, and implemented.

We held off for most of the season so the operators there could gain experience and be better able to provide best input for a simple but effective set of procedures that could be learned without too much effort. The logic here is that, the operators who use the procedures must be comfortable with them, and are therefore the best judges. Finally, the Weather Service people also reviewed them.

When we installed equipment at the Weather Service, it was assumed that headphone operation was a prerequisite, to avoid the distraction of speaker volume. It turns out, however, that personnel at Sullivan want to hear the radio traffic and this places even more emphasis on professionalism in net operations. The mistakes we make over the air will be heard by the Weather Service personnel.

With the new equipment and capabilities at Sullivan, and our annual "Preseason" training, we should be even better prepared for severe weather next spring. □

- Submitted by John Leekley, WB9SMM

Censorship - Ham Radio Style

Editorial by
Mark Thompson, WB9QZB
P.O. Box 357
Mount Prospect, Illinois 60056

Glad to be back again this month. This editorial generated a lot of discussion and controversy in the Chicago area a few months ago, when it was aired. In fact, it was censored on a local Chicago repeater, leading to the discontinuation of a weekly net. Censorship can get pretty ugly sometimes, even in ham radio.

The topic for this month is "Censorship - Ham Radio Style". Mention the word "censorship" and hair stands up on the back of most hams' necks. Hams, like most Americans, believe in free and uncensored speech as long as it doesn't violate the law or FCC Rules. In a public service like ham radio, where we should be trained communicators, the last thing one would expect to find is censorship. But, censorship does exist here in ham radio in all its ugly forms.

For those of you who are in disbelief, let me cite some examples.

The first that comes to mind is packet radio. Censorship of packet bulletins is quite common and, in many cases, is very subtle and insidious. There are many instances where a packet bulletin board sysop or group of sysops decide that they don't agree with another ham's bulletins that he has placed on the packet network. So, the sysops delete the bulletins without any permission from the author of the bulletin, preventing the further distribution of the bulletin.

In some cases private messages between individual hams are held and deleted. When a sysop is asked about this, they usually have one of two excuses. In some cases, they try to quote an FCC rule justifying their action. In other cases, they just say that they own the packet BBS equipment, and they can do with it as they see fit. In other words, they censor bulletins they don't agree with.

The second case of censorship has happened here in the Chicago area on the ChicagoLink weekly bulletin service, produced and edited by Hap Holly,

KC9RP. Hap has reported that he was recently directed by the ACLR repeater Board of Directors to not air in the future any recordings of Glenn Baxter, K1MAN, the head of the IARN. Hap can refer to K1MAN in a news article, but must never again replay K1MAN's voice on ChicagoLink, even in the course of an interview. In other words, the ACLR board has apparently censored K1MAN from ChicagoLink. While some of us may not know K1MAN or agree with his opinions, he certainly should have the opportunity to express himself if Hap deems it newsworthy. Today, it's K1MAN. Who will be censored tomorrow?

These cases of blatant censorship stem mainly from individual hams who don't agree with another ham's points of view, and decide that they must squelch that ham's ability to express himself. What they're scared of, I'm not quite sure. The more rational approach would be to debate the other ham in a logical manner. It's almost as if they believe censoring another ham will prevent anyone from perhaps agreeing with the other point of view.

I suggest that when packet BBS sysops or ham repeater clubs place a resource into public access, they have a responsibility to insure that all hams have equal access to that public service resource and that all points of view can be expressed. Anything other than that is discriminatory. In fact, the case might be made that the deletion of packet messages by a BBS sysop is malicious interference and violates FCC Rules.

If you are disgusted as I am by what you have just read, perhaps it's time you did something about it. First, if you're aware that your packet BBS sysop or repeater club is practicing censorship, let them know about it. If it continues, perhaps it's time to find another packet BBS or repeater to use.

You need to write your ARRL Director and Vice-Director today and express your concerns. It's time for the ARRL to define and articulate a position on what the responsibility is of a packet BBS sysop or repeater organization who places a public resource on the air for all to use.

If you want to hear the RAIN Dial-Up Service, including my editorials, you can call (708) 299-INFO. The RAIN Dial-Up is updated weekly. See you next month.

- 73, Mark, WB9QZB

Packet Address - WB9QZB @ KB9DIP.IL.USA.NA

Correspondence

...from our readers



Phone Patch Editorial has Inconsistencies

November 11, 1991

Dear Ken:

I am responding to the editorial in the November, 1991 BSSS titled "Phone Patches and the Law" by Mark Thompson (WB9QZB). I take issue with several inconsistencies in the editorial, as well as the author's presentation of ARRL interpretations as though they are FCC rules.

Mr. Thompson contends that by-passing a toll carrier via a phone patch or auto-patch is illegal. In fact, FCC Part 97 doesn't address this issue at all. According to Phillip Bradford (the FCC Engineer in Charge, Chicago Office), the rules the Commission applies to amateur auto-patches and phone patches to determine their legality are the rules regarding third-party traffic and business communication. If the phone patch or auto-patch doesn't violate any of these rules, it's not illegal, no matter how many LATAs are crossed.

Mr. Thompson also states, in reference to phone patches and auto-patches, "The FCC rules are very clear about this matter." In fact, there are no FCC rules directed to phone patches and auto-patches. The two pages cited in the editorial (pages 13-15 and 13-16 of the *ARRL FCC Rule Book* are *ARRL interpretations and guidelines, not FCC rules*.

The ARRL is a lobby organization. Their recommendations and guidelines are just that, recommendations and guidelines, not FCC rules. Accordingly, you and I can choose whether we wish to adopt their recommendations and guidelines or not.

FCC rules, on the other hand, are *not* voluntary. FCC Part 97 contains the rules governing the Amateur Radio Service. This set of laws is what we, as Amateur Radio operators, will be held accountable for, not ARRL guidelines.

I welcome any future discussion concerning rules interpretation, provided FCC Part 97 is cited.

Sincerely,

Fred Boetcher, WU9R
3010 Dale Road
Eau Claire, WI 54703

715-644-2112

FAX: 715-644-2621

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More Balloon-Carried Amateur Radio (B.C.A.R.) Launches are Scheduled

By Joe Mayenschein, WB9SBD
Route 1, Box 235A, Hillsboro, WI

Seasons Greetings to all those interested in the fascinating aspect of Amateur Radio packages that are carried to the edge of space. These are truly as close as space vehicles as you can get without going into orbit! Most reach altitudes so high that less than 1% of the earth's atmosphere is left.

There are two flights coming up, both of them in December.

One will be a package very similar to the flight which took place on August 4 of this year. A 2-meter transmitter with dual inputs (both on 2 meters), as well as 440 MHz equipment will be on board. I don't know the exact date, time, or frequencies yet. Keep your eyes on the bulletins on packet radio bulletin boards or listen to the swap net on the Baraboo repeater on Sunday mornings (10 a.m., 146.88 MHz) for more current information and updates. This flight is being set up by a group out of Madison. The craft is currently being worked on.

The other flight I know much more about. On December 7 (or December 8, if weather forces cancellation of the flight on the 7th), the "HBT" (Hillsboro Launch Team) strikes again! The people who were in charge of the August 4 repeater flight (actually, myself and others) are launching their next package.

On board will be two beacons (one on ten meters at approximately 28.321 MHz, and one on the upper edge of the 220 MHz band; exact frequency not yet known, since the crystals have not yet arrived). These beacons will transmit simple messages on CW, with a long carrier. These beacons may possibly include a time-to-temperature converter. By timing the interval between each time the beacon message starts, one will be able to determine the outside temperature - and it gets *cold* up there, as low as 90 degrees below zero Fahrenheit!

The main portion of the package will be dual-purpose: a cross-band repeater using 2 meters up and 440 MHz down. In other words, you would transmit on 2 meters and listen on 440 MHz. As with the August 4 flight, the input frequency will be announced on the output frequency.

Now, here is where things will be neat! On board will be a live camera and an amateur television (ATV) transmitter that will be continuously sending the view from the "edge of space" back to the ground. It will be a standard television signal, with the video carrier on 439.25 MHz. The ATV audio will be at the standard offset of 4.5 MHz above the video carrier, on 443.75 MHz. If you have ATV gear, great! If you don't have ATV gear, how about trying a VCR or a cable-ready TV set?

439.25 MHz is also known as cable channel 69 or XX. *Don't get this confused with UHF TV channel 60 - they are NOT the same!* If you don't have any video equipment, the repeater will still be usable. Just listen on 443.75 MHz.

The antennas for the beacons and the 2-meter input will be vertically

Dave Knaus, WA9POV: West Allis Radio Amateur Club's Member of the Year



Dave Knaus, WA9POV (left), receives the "Member of the Year" plaque and congratulations from West Allis Radio Amateur Club Board Chairman Ralph Tramm, WT9P, at the club's annual Awards Dinner, held October 27 at the Cotton Picker Supper Club near Burlington, Wisconsin.

- Photo by Les Peterson/W9YCV

polarized, and the output of the video and audio downlink will be horizontally polarized.

The launch time for this package will be approximately 9 a.m. CST. Nets will operate during the flight on the Hillsboro repeater (145.37), Baraboo repeater (146.88), and on 7.271 MHz in the 40-meter band. The nets will begin operating about one-half hour before launch.

If you have any ideas for future flights, or if you would like to donate to help have these flights made more often, please let me know. The August 4 flight cost nearly \$300.00, and the repeater/video flight is going to cost nearly \$500.00. Any donations would be a big help.

If you would like to contact me, please do so via my address, or via packet (send to WB9TFJ @ WD9ESU BBS).

73 for now. See you on December 7!

From Russia with Love

Tom, KE9RY (who also holds the call sign UL7E), of Waukesha, was busy showing his friend about the Friendly Fest this year.

Dressed in a tan corduroy coat and a fur cap was Batyr, UL7EDX, who scanned materials at the League booth, and then selected some free literature.

Batyr is from Klkchetav, Russia, which is the sister of Waukesha, Wisconsin, and says the weather is about the same there.

I asked him why his English was so good. Batyr says he is an English Literature teacher in Russia, and is on the air often on 14.347 MHz using a TS-520 transceiver, so he gets to practice English often.

He is also an honorary Trustee of the Kettle Moraine Radio Amateurs.

- Rich Regent, K9GDF



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SELL SWAP BUY

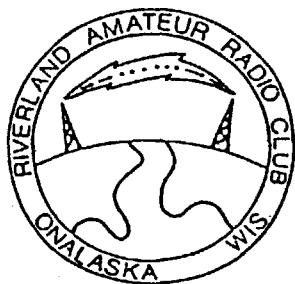
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SINCLAIR 1000 MANUAL: Your editor has a manual for this computer. The manual is free to whomever might want it. However, you pay the shipping and postage (about \$1.50). Drop a note to K9ZZ, address on page 2, or by packet to K9ZZ @ WD9ESU.

"Y' KNOW EVE, THERE'S A PERFECT PLACE TO HANG AN H.F. ANTENNA -- IF WE ONLY KNEW WHAT AN H.F. ANTENNA IS"





Riverland Amateur Radio Club

Karl Simonson, KB9EQI, Secretary

P.O. Box 2251 • La Crosse, WI 54602-2251



Meeting Minutes November 5, 1991

The November meeting of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club was called to order by President Walt Altus, AA9AW, at 7:30 p.m. in the Planetarium located in the basement of Cowley Hall at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse.

Everyone introduced themselves so that visitors would be recognized.

The secretary's report was not read because of the program scheduled was expected to be of some length.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Arby Boomer, WF9T, and was approved as stated.

Feroz Ghouse, WU9N, asked if all the Riverland ARC club members had entered their names for the gift exchange to be held at the December meeting. The box was circulated at the end of the meeting, and all participants withdrew one name for the recipient of their gift.

Feroz suggested that we stand in a moment of silence in recognition of the death of Les Jenks, W9AKY. Les was a member of the RARC, and had been a licensed ham for 71 years. (See page 4 of this issue. - BSSS editor.)

Walt reminded the membership that election of officers for the coming year will be held at the December meeting. A Nomination Committee has been appointed. Members of the Nominating Com-

mittee are: Kent Helman, W9LZQ, Chairman; Dean Summers, KQ0C; and Joe Mezera, WA9SOQ.

Bruce Bjerstedt, K9CUT, reminded us about the public service announcements being aired on the local television stations advertising Amateur Radio.

Joe, WA9SOQ, suggested that the meeting time be moved to 7:00 p.m. during the winter months. He was advised that the constitution states the meeting time shall be determined at the annual meeting (December). Joe made a motion that the meeting time be changed to 7 PM. The motion was seconded by Rick Williams, KV9U. The motion will be carried over for discussion and possible approval at the December meeting.

Greg Miller, KA9FOZ, asked what has been done to contact those persons expressing interest in amateur radio at our public demonstration in Riverside Park last month. The matter is being looked into.

The club expressed its appreciation to all persons who participated in the Amateur Radio Awareness Weekend events. Feroz also passed on his personal thanks to those involved.

Walt reminded us that there will be several matters covered at the annual meeting in December, including election of officers and possible policy changes, if applicable. It is suggested that all members attend this very important meeting.

Bruce, K9CUT, moved and Feroz, WU9N, seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The planetarium program was presented after the meeting and was thoroughly enjoyed.

Respectfully submitted:
Karl Simonson, KB9EQI

Meeting Attendance

(I apologize for any omissions from this roster. No sign-in sheet was available. - Karl)

Dean Summers	KQ0C
Jane Summers	Wife of KQ0C
Duane Fruechte	W9HWQ
Bruce Bjerstedt	K9CUT
Scott Neader	KA9FOX
Phil Uehling	W9UP
John Jorenby	KA9ETH
Joe Mezera	WA9SOQ
Rick Williams	KV9U
Tom Gromacki	N9KIA
Van Elston	WA9FIO
Mary Elston	Wife of WA9FIO
Arby Boomer	WF9T
Feroz Ghouse	WU9N
Pam Ghouse	Wife of WU9N
Bob Wilson	N9LZK
Ken Eggen & wife	WA0RBU
Lorin Lewis	WA9TQJ
Bob Stark	N0PDD
Phil Streng	W0OWU
Nook Bentzen	K9EGO
Dallas Miller & wife	K9LEC
Kent Helman	W9LZQ
Judy Williams & daughter	N9LGV
Scott Hurd	KB9GCV
Greg Miller & wife	KA9FOZ
Art Osborn	W0JDC
Walt Altus	AA9AW

Help Needed!

As the holiday season approaches, food pantries and some social agencies are running so short of food - or completely out of food - they are having to deny help to desperate people who find themselves in circumstances over which they have no control. You can help by donating food personally, or your club's members might want to consider bringing canned and other non-perishable food items to your club's next meeting. Then, take the collected food, in your club's name, to one of the pantries or agencies. You will help to make what should be a joyous season a little less dismal for those who have very little joy in their lives. Some of the social agencies also need usable toys - in good condition - for distribution to needy families to give their children for Christmas. If you are not certain where these donations are accepted in your area, please call your local Department of Human Services. Thank you!

- Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, Editor
Badger State Smoke Signals

Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Rolland Walty, W9LEE, Secretary

W4117 Highway 102 • Westboro, WI 54490

Meeting Minutes November 14, 1991

President N9GEN called the meeting to order at 7:23 p.m. Attending were KE4FE, WD9FWP, N9GEN, N9GHZ, W9QHI, N9LHY, N9LIE, and W9LEE.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report, indicating a respectable balance, was read and approved.

N9GHZ reported that the Motorola units are being tried at the repeater, with mixed results. The receive performance is much improved, but the transmitter overheats and shuts down during transmissions of moderate length, despite efforts to improve cooling of the unit. It was decided to check

Next club meeting: December 12 at 7 p.m. in the Taylor County Courthouse Annex, 2nd and Ogden, Medford.

Don't forget our Wednesday night net at 8:30 on our 147.15 Medford repeater. Members and non-members are invited to check in.

Also, a reminder that dues for 1992 are payable on January 1!

into availability of a comparable receive-only unit. Several modifications to the repeater cabinet have been made by KB9BLV. Also, the condition of the

Please turn to page 17

Racine Megacycle Club

Arne Moxness, KA9ZPY, Secretary

3345 Newman Road • Racine, WI 53406

Meeting Minutes November 11, 1991

President Dave, WB9USI, opened the meeting at 7:40 p.m. 18 old and new members were present. The minutes in the *Badger State Smoke Signals* were approved, with a few corrections. The dues, as written, were wrong. The form at the end of these minutes is correct. Please cut it out and mail it in with your check. Note that you can pay \$26.50 and you have then also paid for the Lakeshore Repeater. Racine Megacycle will forward the \$15.00 to the Lakeshore Repeater Club. (Form by WB9USI).

Treasurer Dave, WB9ZIO, gave a report on the income and expenses for the month. Present balance is \$347.50, plus money for the dinner.

Old Business

President Dave, WB9USI, reported that the date for next year's Ham dinner is Saturday, February 1. The committee is working on the details like mailing, food etc. Cheryl, WS9P, and Bill, W9OVC, are on the committee, but they could use some more help and ideas.

Cheryl, WS9P, reported that she is teaching

Ham Radio to 8 regular students at Gilmore and is asking for some assistance in working with the children after school. Most of them live on the north side, close to Johnson Park.

President Dave, WB9USI, reported on the scout jamboree, J.O.T.A., at camp O'Dakota close to Burlington. There were 40 scouts present who are interested in Ham Radio. The bands were excellent, so they got lots of contacts, both in the U.S. and abroad.

Dan, KA9OIL, reported on the popular Fox Hunts. See the schedule for dates. They always start at Regency Mall by J.C. Penney at 7:00 p.m. Be there at 6:30 p.m. to get the frequency and details for the evening. No need for equipment, follow in one of the cars with equipment. All the antennas are home made and very low cost. The October hunt was won by President Dave, WB9USI, and Jim, KB9CCY, without the directional antenna, which broke. They used a regular H.T. and won!

President Dave, WB9USI, reported that he will donate a Ringo Ranger antenna to the scouts at camp O'Dakota at the next scout camp Dec. 6, 7, and 8. It will be used for 2 meters and packet, and will be mounted on a telephone pole (Make SURE it is a telephone pole only). Dave is always looking for some assistance running the radios and working with the scouts.

Bruce, K9RRS, reported on the newly started Packet Club, which meets the first Monday each month. Details are listed on his packet board.

The "Goodie Box" was given to Bob, W0WLN. Next meeting, Dec. 9, will be held at the Wustum Museum at 7:30 PM. This meeting is open to everyone and, starts with a tour with the museum guides and will finish with a short formal meeting. Last year it was very popular.

The formal meeting closed at 8:15 PM.

The program was held by Gene, WB9CKY, who showed a video of the repeater installations around the area, and how the new Beaumont Park remote will be installed. We will use an existing tower now used by various local governments. That will cover the western area towards Burlington. Jim,

From the Editor

• When Mark Thompson, WB9QZB, introduced himself at the beginning of his series of monthly editorials (also heard on the RAIN Dial-Up ham radio news service), he said some would be controversial. I believe Mark's comments this month fit that description. If you wish to respond, we will gladly publish your letter. Please provide your full name and call sign, address, and telephone number. We won't publish your telephone number, but may need it if we have to verify anything with you. Please try to stick to the issue Mark raises.

• Your editor reaches a milestone of a sort on Friday, December 6, when he will hit the BIG 50. Being fifty years old was certainly never on mind when I got my first Amateur Radio license.. so long ago, and so far away, in Pacific Beach, California. My Novice exam was given by Jim Bell, W6DES, in that suburb of San Diego, in late 1957. It was a big, big day when I opened that envelope from the FCC and found I had become KN6LWB! That homebrew transmitter (a one-tube 6V6 crystal-controlled rig, link coupled to the antenna) and a National SW-54 provided a lot of fun, with some frustration.

I discovered that skip on 40 meters got long at night. Thus, I got up at 3 a.m. one day and, while waking everyone else in the house, I worked Florida! While my mom, dad, and sister were not pleased, I was a happy guy.

I attended my first swapfest out there - in Oceanside - and it was outdoors, of course. And, I had great fun going to the summit of Mount Soledad with Dick Warren, K6OBS, and working into Los Angeles with his 6-meter AM mobile (a Gonset Communicator III, nicknamed a "Gooney Bird"). I never did know why those rigs got such an undignified nickname.

The early days sure were fun. Hope your first days as a ham were the same, and that they still are!

- Jim Römelfanger, K9ZZ

CALENDAR

Courtesy of Racine Megacycle Club

Dec 1	Kenosha Ham breakfast
Dec 7	ARRL testing at Red Cross
Dec 9	Megacycle Meeting at the Wustum Museum, 7:30 p.m.
Dec 13	Fox Hunt
Dec 15	QCWA Christmas party
Jan 11	Hamfest at Waukesha
Jan 13	Megacycle Club meeting
Jan 26	Hamfest at the Odeum
Feb 1	Ham Dinner at Racine
Feb 10	Megacycle Club meeting
Mar 9	Megacycle Club meeting
Mar 22	Hamfest at Jefferson
Apr 5	Hamfest at Madison
Apr 12	Hamfest at Rockford
Apr 13	Megacycle Club meeting
May 2	Hamfest at Cedarburg
May 9	Hamfest at Manitowoc
May 11	Megacycle Club meeting
Jul 11	Hamfest at Oak Creek
Oct 11	Hamfest at Waukesha

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RACINE, WI. 53401

* need not be licensed / must be interested in amateur radio

KA9LOK, was behind the camera, and did some explaining.

After the meeting, several hams gathered at the same popular restaurant for coffee and dessert.

Respectfully submitted:
Arne, KA9ZPY, Secretary

Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club

Carl Searing, W9NW, Secretary

1129 McKinley Road • Eau Claire, WI 54703-2219

Meeting Minutes November 12, 1991

The meeting was opened at 7:38 p.m., with President Bill Jablonske, W9NNS, presiding. The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Following a roll call, the nominating committee reported on their efforts to obtain a roster of candidates for club office. They are:

President: N9JMA, W9NNS

Vice-President: N9NCW, KA9UQO

Secretary: N9LIJ, W9NFJ

Treasurer: KB9EUP, K9UXP, and Jenny, XYL of N9NCW (awaiting call).

Ballots will be mailed to members, with return to be made to KC9NN. Fred and Joe Eide, KB9R, will tabulate the results, and report at the December meeting.

The club's annual Christmas party will be on the normal meeting night, December 10, at the American Legion Hall on Water Street. Happy hour begins at 5:30 p.m., with the meal to begin at 6:30 or so, after a brief meeting. As usual, all are reminded to bring a dish to pass, and their own plates and utensils. The club will furnish ham and rolls, coffee, and soft drinks.

The repeater committee reported on the state of the club's two repeaters. Realignment, retuning, and readjustment has been done. The club was reminded that the 31/91 repeater is now some 13 years old, and a long way from the present state of the art. The controller is erratic. The committee recommend the purchase of a new repeater, and has agreed to research the present repeater field, and come up with choices by the February, 1992 meeting.

The program for the evening was a talk by Walt, UV3GM, on the state of ham radio in the Soviet Union. He is in this country for a brief visit, and attended the meeting by virtue of Paul Bittner, W0AIH, picking him up at the Minneapolis airport earlier in the day.

Walt spoke of the large radio club at Box 88, Moscow, which has 1,200 members. He has been a ham for 30 years, getting his first license at age 14. He has had several calls, and done a lot of DXing, as well as County Hunting.

His talk veered somewhat from the usual ham experiences after the members present found that he had been in Moscow during the 3-day coup attempt, and that he had had a part in the utilization of ham radio in the dissemination of information from the Russian Parliament building during the abortive coup.

His talk was very well received, consisting as it did of anecdotes of Russian life, as well as of Russian hamming. He is most personable, with excellent English. The club's great thanks to him, and to Paul Bittner.

Respectfully submitted:
W9NW, Secretary

Sends American Morse at Depot

Fred Linn, W9NZF, of Cedarburg, besides being one of the nicest hams you would ever meet, is in charge of the telegraph station in the restored Cedarburg railroad depot at the Pioneer Village in Waubesa. Fred says this is an Indian name; he claims to be half Indian. I asked him which half.

Fred smiles and says, "The station is up and working from Memorial Day to Labor Day."

Located on Route 1, north of Route 33, you'll find 20 buildings built between 1840 and 1909. There are guides to help answer questions, a railroad museum to see, and many activities to do. Be careful though when visiting. Sometimes, battles are reenacted, with troops in authentic attire.

Fred will be the handsome-looking telegraph operator, sending American Morse code between 20 and 25 words per minute over a loudspeaker from the depot.

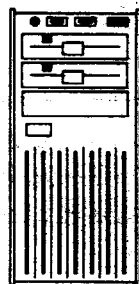
Fred notes there is plenty of parking available in the nearby County lots.

- Rich Regent, K9GDF

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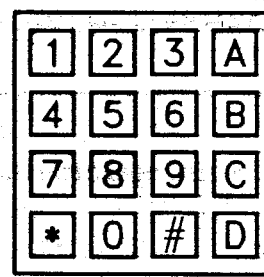
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Look Mom, No-Code!

One nine-year-old boy, keeping warm in November in an orange ski jacket, was smiling most of the morning at the Friendly Fest in Milwaukee. You see, he had just passed the 25 written question test of the Element 3(A) no-code Technician exam. It was happy little Jason Raasch, from Grafton, who previously passed his Novice written test on Halloween Eve.

Still waiting for his call sign, Jason was anxious to tell his 4th-grade classmates at school about his success.

Exams were given on-site during the 'fest to about 40 candidates.

Jason thanks Ed, AA9W, and Herb, WA9UVK, who helped him with his studies. Herb said to Jason, "Remember, you can only listen and not talk on the air until you get your license." Jason is excited, since his dad bought matching hand-held radios with 40 memories. You can hear the enthusiasm when Jason says, "And they tell the day and time, too!"

Jason, and his dad, who is a Technician, hope to join the Ozaukee Radio Club soon. Mrs. Raasch says she will be waiting to see how things go before taking her ham test, though. Shown in the photo are, left to right, one of Jason's "Elmers", Herb Roehner, WA9UVK; Jason Raasch; Jason's dad (behind Jason); and Wisconsin Section Manager Rich Regent, K9GDF. The photo was taken by John Leekley, WB9SMM. - Rich Regent, K9GDF



Russian Cosmonaut U2MIR Visits United States, Appears on Television in Connecticut, Texas

Russian cosmonaut Musa Maranov, U2-MIR/UV3AM, visited Texas and Connecticut late in the week of November 3 to talk with amateurs, narrate films of his flights, and meet the press. Maranov holds the world record for continuous time aloft, 366 days, aboard the space station MIR on a flight concluded in December, 1988. A subsequent flight earlier this year brought his total time in space to 541 days. Maranov was active on the 2-meter band as U2MIR during both flights. A radio-electronics engineer, he trained for nine years before first venturing into space.

Maranov and his Amateur Radio mentor Boris Stepanov, UW3AX, who is deputy editor-in-chief of *Radio Magazine*, were the guests of the Houston Ham Conventions, Inc. ("HamCon"), this year's sponsor of the ARRL South Texas Section Convention, held in Houston November 9 and 10. The visit was arranged by the Texas DX Society, and especially through the efforts of their incoming president, Jim Carmody, NN5O.

On November 8, Maranov visited the Johnson Space Center (Amateur Radio club W5RRR). Both there and at HamCon, he showed videotapes depicting his record-setting flight from beginning to end, including press conferences at the Soviet launch facility, and ham activity both aboard MIR and earthbound. Parts of the film have been seen on Soviet television.

In Houston, Maranov drew attention to both Amateur Radio and HamCon through interviews on two local television outlets. Meanwhile, Stepanov appeared at the convention's contest forum, which was highlighted by a presentation on the recent ZA1A Albania training and operating project. On hand for that were Martti Laine, OH2BH, and Chip Margelli, K7JA, both ZA1A instructor/operators; and Rusty Epps, W6OAT, Northern California DX Foundation liaison for the project and its QSL manager.

Stepanov was old friends with these three, having worked together with them at the World RadioSport Team Championship in Seattle in July, 1990.

Following the convention, Maranov and Stepanov came to Connecticut as guests of the ARRL. While this was the second visit to the U.S. for both, neither previously had visited Newington. During a showing of the space film at Headquarters, Stepanov likened the inside of the MIR spacecraft, a tangle of cables and hoses, "to a normal hamshack." At another point, he primed the audience for a "soft landing" of the capsule containing the returning cosmonauts, which then proceeded to hit the ground in a cloud of dust that must have been visible to the cosmonauts still aboard MIR in orbit!

Maranov, Stepanov, and ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, held a brief press conference attended by several of the local media. Two newspapers, a television station, and an all-news radio station covered the event. Stepanov told reporters that there is "very good cooperation between the U.S. and the Soviet Union in promoting Amateur Radio worldwide."

Maranov was asked how political unrest in the USSR might affect its space program. "Space travel has had many benefits to life on earth," Maranov said, "and the Soviet Union has devoted a large percentage of its resources over the years to space. But it is difficult to predict how much money will be available in the future," he said.

When asked about the physical and psychological effects of 366 days in space, Maranov replied that it was "good to have personal communications with family and friends by Amateur Radio during the flights."

Maranov, who has recently been elected a member of the parliament of the Russian Republic, was ambivalent when asked his opinion of reforms taking place there. "Some reform, yes, some no," he

said. "It is complicated. Russia may be moving too fast toward democracy, and some changes are really not democratic but more like anarchy," he said.

The reporters met QST and QEX columnist Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU, who had succeeded in making packet radio contact with Maranov, U2MIR, from the MIR spacecraft. The two exchanged QSL cards.

"American hams," Stepanov told reporters, "were especially interested in talking to Musa aboard MIR. And it was a real challenge to Musa to handle all the business," he said.

Following the press conference, Maranov spoke to four schools in the Dallas area from W1AW, through net control station W5MIR. Participating in the educational event were the Miller Elementary School in Arlington; the Jackie Cardin Elementary School in Crowley; Crowley High School; and the North Hi Mount School in Ft. Worth.

On the drive back to the Newark, New Jersey, airport from Connecticut, Maranov, Stepanov, and ARRL International Programs Manager Nao Akiyama, attempted a contact with MIR. "We were at a rest stop on the New Jersey Turnpike," Akiyama said, "and we heard U5MIR with a strong signal, at 2205 UTC. The operator, Sergey, worked a station in the Azores, a W2, and a W5, but we were unable to get through with our handheld."

- The ARRL Letter, 11/14/91

Absent Club News; Articles Needed

- Watts Snoo, of the Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs of Stevens Point, does not appear this month. No material was received.
- News of the Northern Wisconsin Radio Club is not included in this issue, since their meeting will be held after our press deadline.
- Articles are needed for BSSS about any subject related to Amateur Radio. Those would include DXing, antennas, simple construction projects, unusual contacts on the air.... your own imagination is the only limit. Feature articles and photos should be sent to the editor.

Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

K9ODK
WB9FDZ

Duane Grotophorst, KA9HKL, Secretary

E5767 South Line Road • Loganville, WI 53943



Meeting Minutes November 13, 1991

The meeting was called to order by President Art Kleefisch, W9WSS, at 7:42 p.m. The following members and guests were present:

Bill Klinkner, N9KXX	Sauk City
L.J. Hemmer, WB9TFJ	Baraboo
Rohbert Hemmer, N9LKK	Baraboo
Harry Westlund, K9EHJ	Baraboo
Raymond Matlosz, N9MLZ	Reedsburg
Art Kleefisch, W9WSS	Baraboo
Jim Decker, WB9UQT	Baraboo
Harry Mayland, K9FFT	Baraboo
Ken Johnson, K9DZG	Mazomanie
Duane Grotophorst, KA9HKL	Loganville

The minutes of the last month's meeting were approved as published in *BSSS*. The treasurer's report was accepted, with a working balance of \$134.43.

Edward McCall, KA0UFD, of Friendship, WI, was voted in as a new member. Welcome aboard, Ed.

L.J., WB9TFJ, relayed some comments and thoughts expressed to him regarding our club's name, and the current controversy of organizations and groups using Native American names or symbols.

The next item of discussion dealt with the proposed changes to the club's constitution, and the extent of such changes that are necessary to bring it to be a more realistic document for our club's needs and goals. Some of the ideas expressed varied from minor wording changes to a complete overhaul or a start from scratch. A committee was set up to look at the constitution and the changes that may be made to it. This committee consists of Art, W9WSS; Bill, N9KXX; Jim, WB9UQT; and Duane, KA9HKL. The committee will present the proposed changes at the January meeting.

Nominations were opened for the December

In Sympathy

The staff of *Badger State Smoke Signals* extends its sincere sympathy to Al (AA7CS, formerly WB9FMU) and Nancy Johnson, of Beaver Dam, on the death November 14 of their son Andrew. Andrew, age 18, died as a result of an automobile accident.

election of officers, and these nominations have been made for the following offices:

President: Art Kleefisch, W9WSS
Vice-President: Bill Klinkner, N9KXX
Secretary: Rick Wegner, N9MME
Treasurer: Jim Decker, WB9UQT

Nominations will be re-opened at the Thursday, December 12th meeting, before the election. Remember to bring a \$2.00 or less gift to exchange at the next meeting. We plan to adjourn early and go to a local eating establishment for a Christmas celebration.

Buck Nite winner was Peter Sweeney, WD9JIB, who was not present. Next month's prize will be two bucks.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Duane Grotophorst, Secretary

News Briefs

- As announced by the FCC, the maximum reimbursement for volunteer examiner tests in 1992 will be \$5.44, up from \$5.27 in 1991. The ARRL VEC will charge \$5.40 for examinations for Technician or higher class licenses in 1992.

- The 1992 edition of *Popular Communications' Communications Guide* is off the press. More than half the articles in the book are written by licensed amateurs. Topics include choosing a radio, what kind of antennas to use, scanning, and an article on becoming a ham by Fred Maia, W5YI. \$4.95 from CQ Communications, 76 North Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801.

- Here is the latest list of intruders in amateur bands of which the ARRL has notified the FCC:
1800-23 (A2A), "continuing daily problem";
7008 (A1A/F1B), Murmansk, USSR;
7039 (A1A), USSR beacon station "K";

14024 (F1B), Moscow;
14171 (F1B), idling and data;
18090 (F1B), USSR RWB24;
18093 (F1B), Argentina, daily;
18125 (NON and F1B), encrypted traffic;
18164.7 (F1B), STK with RY tape;
18167 (A1A), Havana CMU967.

- 149 US representatives are now co-sponsors of H.R. 73, the "Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1991." 19 US senators are co-sponsors of the companion senate bill, S. 1372.

BSSS editor's note: As far as we know, the number of Wisconsin reps who have signed as co-sponsors remains at only three - Kleczka, Gunderson, and Moody. Are we communicating at all with the other six? We do not know if either Wisconsin senator (Bob Kasten and Herb Kohl) has signed as co-sponsor of the Senate version.

- The ARRL seeks nominations for the 1991 International Humanitarian Award, honoring hams who, through Amateur Radio, promote the welfare of mankind by assisting people in need throughout the world. A group or person also is eligible based

on extraordinary service during a crisis or disaster. Send nominations by December 31 to Rick Palm, K1CE, Field Services Manager, at ARRL HQ, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111.

- An increased market share for the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator Program has been attributed to new services begun this year. In the first 4 months of 1991, the ARRL/VEC coordinated 37.7% of the examinations conducted by accredited Volunteer Examiners. For the subsequent 5 months, this share climbed to 52.0%. In the most recent month for which statistics are available, Sept., 1991, the ARRL share was 56.1%. Earlier this year, a toll-free WATS line became available for ARRL volunteer examiners, instant accreditation of non-ARRL VEs was implemented, computer software was made available for exam generation and administration, and exam teams were allowed to retain up to \$4 of each allowable \$5.25 test fee to recoup their expenses. As a result of these and improvements in service, the popularity of the ARRL VEC program is climbing dramatically.

- The ARRL Letter, 10/31 and 11/14/91



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ARRL Executive Committee Meeting Highlights

The American Radio Relay League's Executive Committee met October 26 in Memphis, Tennessee. Here are the highlights:

- **Club and military recreation call signs:** Recent efforts to arrange for the resumption of issuance of club and military recreation station licenses were reviewed. Ever since the FCC ceased issuing new licenses in 1977, it has been the goal of ARRL to find a way to restore this service to the amateur community. It is very important for school radio clubs, in particular, to have the permanent identity that a club station call sign provides. There is support for club licenses at the FCC, but no resources are available to devote to the task.

Accordingly, ARRL was encouraged to seek legislative authority to assist the Commission, without compensation or reimbursement of any kind, in providing the service. Appropriate language was introduced in Congress during consideration of the FCC authorization bill. Unfortunately, the resumption of club call signs now appears to be in jeopardy because of problems with the legislation. League representatives in Washington are continuing to pursue a solution that will restore this much needed service.

- **Rules governing business communications.** Recent publicity surrounding remarks by FCC Private Radio Bureau Chief Ralph Haller, delivered at the ARRL National Convention in Saginaw, was reviewed. The publicity, appearing in the *W5YI Report* and later in *Westlink Report*, appears to have misrepresented the intent of Haller's comments.

Informal discussions between FCC staff and ARRL representatives began earlier this year when literal interpretations of Section 97.113 of the FCC Rules called longstanding practices of Amateur Radio volunteers into question. While no ARRL petition for rulemaking on this subject has been authorized, it was the sense of the Committee that a solution to the problem of overzealous interpretation should continue to be sought without compromising the essence of Amateur Radio as a voluntary non-commercial communication service.

The Committee also noted that any proposal for changes to Section 97.113 would be subject to the public notice and comment requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act, ensuring an opportunity for adequate participation in the process by the amateur community.

- **Home automation and communications systems (ET Docket 91-269).** Comments on this Notice of Proposed Rule Making are due December 9. General Counsel Imlay was authorized to file comments calling attention to the need for adequate regulation of the susceptibility of such devices to amateur and other radio transmissions.

- **Status of preemption inquiry, PR Docket 91-36.** While the public record in this proceeding is favorable to the amateur position, this may not be adequate to overcome a strong bias against assertions of federal preemption. Without taking formal action, the Committee noted the progress being made in some local and state jurisdictions to rescind inappropriate ordinances and statutes, and urged League representatives in Washington to take steps to ensure that the outcome of the inquiry does not jeopardize

these efforts in any way.

- **FCC inquiry into land mobile spectrum efficiency (PR Docket 91-170).** General Counsel Imlay was authorized to file appropriate comments urging that the Commission mandate technical solutions to alleged overcrowding of land mobile allocations within the existing allocations to this service, without further impinging on allocations needed by other services.

- **A petition** has been received by the FCC from an individual radio amateur, requesting a rules change to permit digital voice transmissions conforming to standards to be developed by ARRL. An RM (file) number has not yet been assigned. The petition will be circulated to the ARRL Future Systems Committee for study.

- **Part 18 ISM inquiry, ET Docket 91-313.** FCC has begun an inquiry to solicit information to assist it in shaping its position on international standards to control radio noise generated by Industrial, Scientific and Medical (ISM) equipment. It is also seeking information about the desirability and feasibility of harmonizing Part 18 of its rules with the international standards for ISM equipment. The text of the Notice of Inquiry was not available for the meeting; however, it was agreed that the Notice should be reviewed and ARRL should plan to participate in the proceeding since it is in the best interests of radio amateurs to minimize ISM emissions.

- **U.S. participation in the CEPT "common license" arrangement.** FCC staff has expressed interest in participating with European administrations in honoring one another's Amateur Radio licenses. To facilitate this arrangement, The League is assisting in the exchange of information between administrations.

- **AMSAT-NA President Doug Loughmiller, KO5I,** joined the meeting to make a presentation describing plans for a Phase 3D satellite and the need for fundraising assistance. Later in the meeting, it was voted that the League shall conduct a direct mailing to members seeking voluntary contributions in support of the Phase 3D program with a goal of raising \$300,000 from ARRL members by the end of 1992, as requested by AMSAT-NA.

- **President Price reported on the IARU Region 3 Conference, held in Bandung, Indonesia, October 8-12.** Mr Price also reported on the meeting of the IARU Administrative Council held immediately after the Bandung conference, October 13-15. Principal topics were WARC-92 preparations, inappropriate uses of the amateur bands, and satellite coordination matters.

- **WARC-92 status report.** Mr. Price and Mr. Sumner briefly described the League's continuing involvement in the development of U.S. positions for the conference, primarily through Paul Rinaldo, W4RJ, and plans for on-site support of the IARU observer team at the conference.

- The Committee discussed H.R. 3501, introduced by Congressman Ritter of Pennsylvania, but took no position on the legislation (see story above).

Executive Committee members present at the meeting were President Larry E. Price, W4RA, in the Chair; First Vice President George S. Wilson III, W4OYI; Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ; and Directors Frank M. Butler, Jr., W4RH; Paul Grauer, W0FIR; Stephen A. Mendelsohn, WA2DHF; and Marshall Quiat, AG0X.

Also present were Directors Fried Heyn, WA6WZO; Edmond A. Metzger, W9PRN; and Allan L. Severson, AB8P; Vice Presidents Rod Stafford, KB6ZV, and Jim Haynie, WB5JBP, and General Counsel Christopher D. Imlay, N3AKD.

- The ARRL Letter, 10/31/91

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Newington, Connecticut 06111

Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Continued from page 12

emergency battery is to be checked.

It was decided to make a list of members authorized to have access to the repeater building, and have it posted or on file at the NCTI office.

The Explorer Post project is on hold. One more sign-up meeting will be tried on a Wednesday evening.



Volunteers with HTs are needed for the Abbotsford Christmas Parade December 7. If you can help, please contact Mike, N9GHZ.

Either April 11 or 18 has been suggested for the next VEC test in Medford. When the date is firm, notice will be sent to BSSS for publication.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Rolland Walty, W9LEE, Secretary

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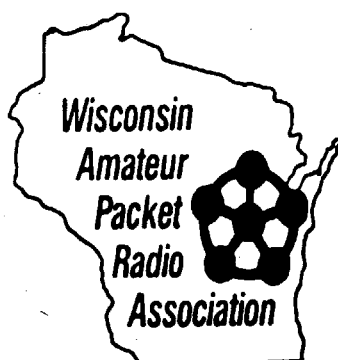
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Steve Loeffler, WB9ZRE, Editor, 123 W. Oshkosh St., Ripon, WI 54971

WAPR Meeting Minutes. 11/16/91

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association

Meeting Minutes
November 16, 1991

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM by Bill, W9NNS.

There were no Treasurer's report or minutes read & meeting was informal with 25 persons present.

The Membership application & subscription to BSSS with current dues amount of \$12.50 was discussed at great length. At the present time, if you are already receiving BSSS from another source, WAPR keeps all the money. Many felt that this was not fair & requested a change to either a reduced Dues amount to WAPR or an extension to their subscription to BSSS or make it an option to receive BSSS. It was pointed out that BSSS was the chosen method for the WAPR newsletter rather than sending our own. A motion was made by Walt, AA9AW, & seconded by Kent, W9LZQ, to raise the dues to \$15.00 per year from \$12.50 & to continue to use BSSS as our Forum & Newsletter. This increase is to take effect at the start of WAPR's fiscal year, ie, July 1, 1992. There is to be no prorating of the Dues. Motion was passed by a voice vote.

A committee of volunteers was formed to "thinktank" the current network & plans for future expansion. They are to also explore the possibilities of approaching Commercial interests for financial aid. Members of this Committee are: Bob, N9BKJ, Joel, K9MLD, Bob, KA9EOK, Kent, W9LZQ, Bill, W9NNS, & Brian, N9MZI.. All members are encouraged to contact any of the above with any ideas you might have.

Joel, K9MLD, gave a report on the progress that the Milwaukee ARES group is making with their network using 145.610 & linking to the existing WAPR Network. No timetable was given for linking to the Network. The present WAPR network is open & available for all to use, but the link to the ARES Network will be controlled by ARES for whatever use they designate.

A poll was taken pertaining to various types of Bulletins currently being forwarded throughout the state. All but one member requested that all "Legal" bulletins, including For Sale type, be forwarded throughout the state per the agreed upon BBS relaying forwarding scheme to all BBS's.

A lengthy discussion on the 6 meter links being implemented throughout the Northern part of the state with an attempt to get all node sysops/sites on the same page was held. It was finally decided to activate all the sites on 11/23/91 and after a period of time, decide which

should be moved to a different frequency & linked via other frequencies. All the radios & TNC's were converted & tested by Joel, K9MLD, are in the possession of the site sysops now... Many Thanks to Joel for a big job well done... Lets hope it works better now with the addition of TMS HILL to that network & the perseverance of Joel...

Bruce, W9LCK, has two Motorola radios xtalled up & new TNC's to place on line for the link from Markesan to Waupaca. This link will start up at 1200 baud & the speed will hopefully be increased as soon as possible. The 4800 baud radio's & TNC's on line there now are not working & will be checked & used at some other site if needed.. This should be upgraded within the month.

Although there was not a representative of the Midwest DX Packet Cluster Network present, Scot Herrick, NB9C, did sent a 4 1/2 page letter detailing their network & plans for the future. He emphasized that they do not want to be linked to the WAPR Network, they do want all users to use the 223.4xx inputs to the various nodes, & that they would like to expand their network to include Northwest Wisconsin & the LaCrosse area. For more information, you can contact KS9K, NB9C, WI9L, KR9S, & AA9A who are node sysops. The upcoming meeting schedule is:

January 11, 1992 at 10 AM at the West Allis Radio Club Swapfest
June 14, 1992 at 12 PM at UW in Stevens Point

WAPR would like to thank Mike Pagel, KA9LAQ, & the Stevens Point Amateur Radio Club for providing the Room for this meeting.

Coffee, Hot Chocolate, & delicious cookies were served at the conclusion of the meeting...

Respectively Submitted, Dan, WB9TYT

PK232/DRDOS TIMESET INFO

For anyone who is using a PK232MBX with an IBM PC running DRDOS, here is a way of setting the PK232's clock from the AUTOEXEC.BAT file during bootup:

1. Create the following 3 files:

FILENAME	CONTENTS
----------	----------

CR	<cr> (file contains a carriage return only)
----	--

TIME.SCR	R TIME.TXT M34,35,00 M2C,2D,02 M2F,30,04
----------	---

```
M20,21,0E
M00,0F,10
SO
"DAYTIME"
(add a space after "DAYTIME")
Q
M10,1F,08
W TIME.TXT,00,17
Q
```

```
PK232SET.BAT @ECHO OF
TIME > TIME.TXT < CR
DATE >> TIME < CR
SID < TIME.SCR > NULL
MODE COM2:96,E,7,1 > NULL
COPY TIME.TXT COM2 > NULL
(use your comm port and its
settings)
```

2. Add the following line at the end of your AUTOEXEC.BAT file:

```
PK232SET
```

73 de ND6P -Jim, Burbank, CA

THE TEST POINT (continued from page 3)

help to readers near or traveling thru the area. If you are interested in any of these, please save this listing as we may not always have space available to list them. Thanks to "Ground Wave" for the above information.

If you plan on taking any of the exams, it is suggested that you contact the sponsoring organization as the date nears to find if there have been any changes in dates or locations.

This section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available to publicize your Volunteer Examiner Amateur Radio license examination schedules. Please send us your schedules of dates, times, and locations that you will be conducting examinations and we will include the information here. Be sure to include contact address and any other necessary requirements. Information should be sent to K9EN at the address shown on page 2.

You only live once...But if you work it right, once is enough.

Fred Allen

There are more fish taken out of a stream than ever were in it.

Oliver Herford

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATION OPPORTUNITIES

The following test session information is provided by the ARRL/VEC. For further information, please contact the test session CONTACT PERSON at the telephone numbers provided. If necessary, you may contact the ARRL/VEC at 203-666-1541 x282 for additional information.

Although the test session information presented here does not indicate whether walk-ins are accepted or not, most test sessions do allow walk-ins. We encourage you, however, to always contact the CONTACT PERSON at the telephone number provided so that the VE Team is aware that you are attending the test session.

STILL NEED TO PREPARE FOR YOUR EXAM?

If you would like information on how to become licensed; or how to locate Amateur Radio clubs, instructors, licensing classes and/or Novice examiners in your area; please contact the ARRL Educational Activities Department (EAD) at 203-666-1541 x219. The EAD can also provide information on recommended study materials.

AFTER THE EXAM - HOW LONG WILL IT BE BEFORE MY LICENSE ARRIVES?

If you've recently passed your initial examination for an Amateur Radio license, or if you've just upgraded, please accept our warmest congratulations! Now that you've passed the test, receiving your license in the mail is the next step. Since the FCC's current license processing time is at about seven weeks, and since there can be additional time required within the volunteer examiner system of two weeks or so allowing your VE Team and VEC (if for Technician class or higher) time to process your application, your license might not arrive for up to eight to ten weeks. To keep your wait for that new license or upgrade as short as possible, we are taking the following steps to give you the fastest possible service. We have begun providing our VE Teams with express OVERNIGHT mailers for the return of applications from ARRL/VEC exam sessions to us at the VEC—and we at the VEC have begun sending our daily packages to the FCC's Licensing Facility via an express OVERNIGHT service.

We are also encouraging our VEs, and imposing the same emphasis upon ourselves, to process examination packages as quickly as possible to expedite your license. Having implemented the above procedures, the ARRL/VEC wants your wait for your new license to be as short as possible. If you have any other suggestions about the program, or services we provide, please feel free to contact us.

THINGS TO BRING TO THE EXAMINATION

Be prepared to bring the following items with you to VEC examinations: Your original current FCC-issued Amateur Radio license (and a copy of it)—if you are licensed; Any original Written or Code Element credit documents (CSCs) which are currently valid; Two forms of identification (e.g., a photo-ID or drivers license and another item indicating your current name and address); A calculator (if necessary); A pen and two pencils; and, the applicable examination test fee (\$5.25 for 1991 ARRL/VEC Test Sessions; or \$5.40 for 1992 ARRL/VEC sessions).

TECHNICIAN CLASS GRANDFATHER CREDIT

If you hold a Technician class license which was issued prior to 3/21/87, you are not required to take the Element 3B (General class written) examination if you can provide a copy of your FCC-issued license dated before that date. If your license has since been renewed, and if you don't have a copy of the pre-3/21/87 license, you must seek a verification letter from the FCC. To do so, write to FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245 and request a Form 1010-B Verification Letter verifying that you were licensed as a Technician class prior to 3/21/87. After you receive that form from the FCC, bring it to the test session with you in order to claim your deserved credit.

LOST LICENSES

If you have lost your license, be aware that VECs are not permitted to submit any upgrades to the FCC without a copy of your current license attached to the 610 form. In order to expedite your upgrade, you must write the FCC and request a replacement license. Since that can take several weeks to arrive, we recommend that you also request a Form 1010-B verification letter from the FCC which will arrive in a couple of weeks and is legally binding license document. You may use that form as a license until your Form-660 license arrives. The original and a copy of Form 1010-B must be brought to the test session verifying that you are currently licensed—the copy of which will be attached to your upgrade application (in lieu of an actual Form-660 license copy). To request the Form 1010-B Verification Letter, write to: FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245, indicating that you lost your license and that you are requesting that a replacement license be issued to you—also be sure to request that they send you a Form 1010-B Verification Letter verifying that you are licensed.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THE HANDICAPPED OR DISABLED

The FCC requires that the administering VEs must accommodate an examinee whose physical disabilities require a special examination procedure. To do so, the administering VEs may require a physician's statement indicating the nature of the disability before determining which, if any, special accommodative procedures must be used.

The VEs may accommodate handicapped/disabled examinees by administering the examination at a place convenient and comfortable for the examinee—even at bedside; for the hearing impaired the Morse code may be sent using flashing lights or a vibrating surface; for the visually impaired, VEs may read or write for the examinee; where warranted, the VEs may pause the Morse code message after each sentence/phrase, or each word, or even after each character to allow the examinee additional time to absorb and interpret what was sent—also the VEs may substitute a sending test for a receiving test where the examinee's handicap warrants.

VE Teams may need advanced notice in order to provide the necessary accommodations to examinees who require them. If you will require accommodations, please contact the VE Team in advance to advise them of your needs.

EXEMPTION OF THE 13/20 WPM MORSE CODE REQUIREMENTS

If you are a severely handicapped or disabled individual and have already passed at least a 5 WPM Morse code examination (or hold a license which meets that requirement), you may be eligible for exemption from the 13/20 WPM Morse code examination requirements. For information and applicable forms, send an SASE to the ARRL/VEC, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111; and request our Handicapped Information Package.

FOX HUNT NEWS

MILWAUKEE FOX HUNT CLUB 146.43 Mhz.
WB9SDD/WA9BFH Club Directors, Milwaukee, WI.

News Of The Last Regular Hunt:

This last hunt held a few surprises for just about everyone. N9KWS was on his first hunt with his own team. (That's an experience that we all remember, our first time!). It was raining for most of the evening, which is perfect hunting WX. But for the rest of us, there were a few surprises at every turn.

The hunt started at the Target Parking lot, on South 27th Street. The first bearing was pretty much to the north. N9CFK decided to try the free-way around. The rest of the hunters took 27th street to the north. Once across the viaduct, some hunters hopped on the freeway, while others proceeded north on 27th to the inner city. Leon soon found out that the Wisconsin bridge was under major repair. His team had to find another way to go west! N9CFK found himself what he thought was the wrong side of the Menomonee River near the freeway. The way things turned out, he was on the right side all along! The valley posed more of a problem than most teams had anticipated. No one thought it would be that hard of a spot to get into. Bernie had the hidden TX just east of the freeway, (HWY 41), near the Wells street bridge. The TX was on the south bank of the Menomonee River with the TX being a HT stuck into a plastic bag on a limb of a tree about six feet off of the ground with an automatic timer. First place honors go to WB9SDD & Co. with a time of 31 minutes. Most of the hunters were soon to follow.

After the hunt the hunters met over at Shakey's Pizza on West National Ave.

The hunters placed as follows:

- 1) WB9SDD, WB9CZP, WB4HKE 31 minutes
- 2) K9GCF, WA9HED, JEFF 35
- 3) N9DFE, PHILL 51
- 4) K9QEN, PAUL 91
- 5) N9KWS, LAURA 91
- 6) N9CFK, N9GYJ, KA9GWH, MARIA --

FOX: WA9BFH

73's Larry WB9SDD

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Tact is the art of making guests feel at home when that's really where you wish they were.
George Bergman

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